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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 19, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 1987

REPUBLIC HELD FLAG RAISING

Several Hundred Alma People Attended Exercises at Plant Saturday.

REV. JACKSON GAVE ADDRESS

Republic Band and Boy Scouts Aided in the Celebration That Was Given.

One of the largest American flags to be found anywhere, now floats with the breeze, from a seventy-five foot flag-pole at plant one of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., of this city. The flag was raised for the first time last Saturday, with due ceremony and in the presence of nearly a thousand people.

Saturday afternoon the Republic band marched through the streets and over to the plant, playing beautiful strains of music, which attracted hundreds to the affair.

Once on the ground, the band struck up patriotic airs, while the mammoth flag pole was raised, and the flag was given to the top of the pole, as the Republic band played "The Star Spangled Banner." Scarcely a head could be seen in the large crowd, which was not uncovered in honor of Old Glory, as it went to the top of the pole and straightened out before the half gale, which was blowing. Just as the flag was raised a group of boy scouts fired a salute in its honor.

The following address was given by Rev. J. Frank Jackson:

At a time full of events which seem to be changing the destiny of nations, we raise this flag. For more than a hundred years the stars and stripes have been unfurled to the morning breeze, over no deed of which we need be ashamed, but over many for which we have just cause to be profoundly thankful. It has been, and is now, and will be to the end of time, the trust, the unfailing symbol of progressive freedom. It has been borne by men who carried food to the hungry, medicine to the sick, knowledge to the ignorant, and liberty to the slave. It remains for the millions who enjoy the protection vouchsafed by the power which the flag represents, to vow and strictly to remember and keep that vow, that neither in thought nor word nor deed, will they bring dishonor upon it at this great crisis of our national life. And further, to vow that whatever service shall be asked, might always bearing in mind that the integrity and strength of a nation lies in the faithfulness of its people and the readiness with which they respond to the calls of constituted authority. Possibly there will be little that we can do. We hope and pray that the pressing burden of this hour may soon be lifted. But the moral support which comes from a strong determination not to fail to render our just due, will at times accomplish as much as an army of valiant men. We are called upon to be loyal. Surely nothing less can be asked of us. This land is to be the home of our children and children's children. We may leave many good things to them but surely can leave nothing better than a record of continuous loyalty which manifested itself in ever ready service. At this time we should not criticize. We should ask to be commanded and stand ready to obey. We have no foot of land to spare for the man who fosters division, but every place is open and free to the one who has power to unite.

We salute this Emblem of the Sovereignty of our Country, and dedicate to the preservation of its Honor, whatever means we possess and whatever facilities we are endowed with, even to the extent of everything, not excepting life itself.

Marcus Polasky, again an Alma resident, closed the program, and brought home to the gathering the points of that great message which Wilson read to congress, when he asked for the declaration that a state of war existed between this country and Germany. He also departed from this long enough to pay a tribute to Frank W. Ruggles, the head of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc.

The flag which was raised, was one purchased by the men of the plant, who each "chipped in" a small amount towards the whole which was needed. When the flag had been secured the company put up the large pole immediately in front of the offices of the concern, where now Old Glory waves over the Republic every day.

A CORRECTION

We are asked by Mr. Sudroff to correct an article which appeared in the Record last week in regard to Wayne Sudroff shooting up the A. J. Hall sugar bush. It appears that it was another son of Mr. Sudroff's that was responsible.

APPOINTS COMMITTEES

Mayor McKinney appointed the New Committees Tuesday.

At a meeting of the common council of the city of Alma on Tuesday evening of this week, Mayor Ira H. McKinney appointed the following committees which were confirmed by the council:

Committee on streets—Glass, Ogden and Fullerton.
Committee on fire department—Lake, Knoetzer, Ward and Adams.
Committee on claims and accounts—Ward, Adams, McConkey and Glass.
Committee on sewers and drains—Adams, McConkey and Lake.
Committee on salaries—Ogden, Glass and Fullerton.

Committee on ways and means—Ward, Lake and Knoetzer.
Committee on Electric lights—Fullerton, Ogden and Ward.
Committee on health—Ogden, Ward and McConkey.

Committee on printing—Knoetzer, Fullerton and Ogden.
Park board—McConkey, Adams and Lake.

MILITARY DRILL

AT ALMA COLLEGE

Boys Will Get Drill and Girls to Get Red Cross Work—Athletics to be Continued.

Military drill have been voted into being for Alma college students by action of the Alma college faculty, which approved of it at a meeting held on Tuesday of this week. Red Cross work for the girls will also be given, and both the men and young ladies of the college will be required to take the work, unless special permission can be obtained.

Athletics, and particularly base ball, are to be retained in spite of the drill, which will be welcome news to some hundreds of Alma base ball fans. The athletics were saved by a faculty vote, it being felt that the college should do everything possible to keep the men in the best kind of physical condition, because some of the men may later enlist. That athletics will keep the men in this condition is not questioned.

This means that Alma college will make the race for the Michigan intercollegiate championship. Kalamazoo college so far is the only M. I. A. school to throw up athletics and it is probable that the others will retain sports throughout the spring.

The military training will be started at once, and will be held three times a week. Coach Harry Helmer will have charge of the conditioning of the men. The college at present is looking for a drillmaster able to instruct the men in military tactics, and as soon as a man is secured, the drilling will be started.

Alma college, like many others in the country, will endeavor to render the greatest possible aid to the government in preparing men for the army, should they be needed, and when the government's program is finally announced, base ball and track will be thrown up, if it is found that they conflict with this program, but until such a time they will be continued.

President Crooks attended a meeting of college presidents of the central states in Chicago the latter part of last week, and at this meeting a resolution was passed calling for the immediate installation of military training in the colleges, together with an expression that the colleges would use every endeavor to serve the best interests of the country, even to putting a stop to athletics, should it be found necessary. This is also taken to mean that class work would be curtailed also, if it was felt that the colleges could aid the government in any respect by so doing.

Until the final program is fixed by the government the students of Alma college will take the helpful military and Red Cross work, and will also continue with athletics.

CONTINUE CAMPAIGN

Executive Committee to Keep up Endowment Campaign.

Speculation in regard to the Alma college endowment campaign, was set at an end Tuesday, when the executive committee of the board of trustees of the college at a meeting here, decided that the campaign was to continue for the present, but that it might later be necessary to postpone it because of the war.

The college campaign for a \$600,000 additional endowment is well under way, and it was felt that it should not be dropped until the present uncertainty had passed, as the war might not now be of long duration, and also, as one member expressed it, the campaign should be continued because there would be a great demand for trained minds when the war ended, and it only strengthened the need of a strong institution.

If it is later found to be advisable to postpone the campaign the executive committee of the board of trustees will take action in this respect.

CARLOAD OF POTATOES

Last car of eating potatoes that I will handle can be had at Smith's warehouse, on Friday and Saturday of this week, and about fifty bushels of seed potatoes. (87-11-c)

LIGHTING PLANT TO LOCATE HERE

City of Alma Will Get The \$150,000 Power House This Summer.

PURCHASE PROPERTY OF CITY

Central Michigan Light & Power Company Will Bring Plant to Alma.

The Central Michigan Light & Power company has definitely decided to build its new \$150,000 power house in this city, and on Tuesday evening of this week the city council voted to sell to this company three and three-fourths acres of ground on the north bank of Pine river for the site of the plant.

The city council instructed the mayor and the city clerk to execute and deliver to the Central Michigan Light & Power company the deeds to the property on the payment of the sum of \$1,200, which the concern is to pay for the land, which it is to acquire here for a site.

This company for some years has had a plant at Mt. Pleasant and has been serving cities and towns nearby with current, by the high tension system. Alma was one of the cities which has been using current of this company to a considerable extent.

Lately, the company found that it would be advisable to build a new and larger plant, and Mayor McKinney, hearing of the project, immediately got in touch with the officials of the concern and pointed out the many advantages that Alma, the most rapidly growing city in the state, would offer, and prevailed upon them to come to Alma and look over the ground carefully.

McKinney has kept constantly in touch with the officials of the company and convinced them that Alma offered the finest advantages that they could secure in any of the cities through this section, with the result that the company has decided upon Alma for the location of the new plant.

Several other cities and towns will be served with current from this plant when it is constructed and in operation.

The site which is to be sold to the company is on the north bank of Pine river, just to the west of the ice houses, and would lie between the extension of Lincoln and Park avenues.

"God's Country and the Woman"—Idlehour Sunday.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

Royal Neighbors of Montclair and Gratiot Met Here.

The Royal Neighbors of Gratiot and Montclair counties held a district convention in this city last Tuesday, which was well attended. A reception committee met the A. A. and P. M. trains and escorted their guests to the I. O. O. F. hall, where the convention was called to order by the district president, Mrs. Carrie D. Stoddard, who gave the address of welcome. The response was given by Josephine Smith of Saginaw. After the election of officers, Mrs. Edna Leight played the grand march and the guests marched to the dining room where a bounteous dinner was served. The dining room was beautifully decorated with potted plants and cut flowers.

At 2 o'clock the meeting was called to order by Mrs. Carrie Stoddard and Greenville's degree team conferred the degree on a large class of candidates of this city. To say that the program of entertainment given by the Alma Royal Neighbors was a success is putting it very mild. The Royal Neighbors' scouts, nurses, drummer, Uncle Sam and Liberty were simply great.

There were 106 present at the 11 o'clock session, and about two hundred at the afternoon session.

GOGGIN BUYS

Purchases Miner Restaurant and the Building.

Attorney Charles Goggin last Saturday closed a deal for the Miner restaurant on East Superior street, and also purchased the building in which the restaurant is located.

Mr. Goggin bought the restaurant from W. H. Miner & Son and at the same time purchased the building of S. L. Bennett, who has owned it for some years.

Following the purchase Mr. Goggin sold stock to William Bourikas, Nick and Theo Bardavil, and then leased the fixtures and building to them.

The three young men who have leased the place have been working at the European cafe for the past year and have proven themselves to be capable young men in the restaurant business and they should be able to continue the business which this place has been enjoying. They expect to make several small changes which will be beneficial to the business, and have secured an additional cook to aid in the work there.

SMALL POTATOES

High Prices Causing Comment on Small Seed Potatoes.

The high price at which potatoes are selling and the scarcity of good seed potatoes will cause growers to use very small and inferior seed much more commonly this season than usual.

Potatoes which are a little larger than a good sized hen's egg if taken from productive and disease free hills are desirable for seed purposes. Potatoes of this size taken from fields which are known to have been pure as to variety and practically free from disease will not be objectionable. Such seed should be planted whole.

Potatoes which are much smaller than a hen's egg especially when the general condition of the crop from which they were taken is unknown may result in the development of a large percentage of diseased hills and a corresponding reduction in yield. Very small seed whether planted whole or cut will enhance the danger of loss from disease and unfavorable weather conditions because the plants which grow from such seed do not get as good a start as from larger seed.

The potato plant is dependent upon the seed piece for its entire development for some time after the plant begins to grow. Large seed will almost invariably produce stronger plants than very small seed. All seed should be treated for scab and black scurf before planting. For directions as to method of treating the seed write the Michigan Agricultural college, East Lansing.

ALMA TO HAVE LARGE DEPARTMENT STORE

Several Local Merchants Interest Outside Capital for a Large Concern Here.

Numerous rumors have been afloat during the past few days to the effect that a deal has been consummated whereby some local merchants have induced out of the city capital to join forces with them for an investment in a large department store, carrying extensive lines of many kinds of merchandise, such as are carried by the department stores of the large cities.

The people of Alma are sure to welcome such a store, and the new Merchants' Building company and I. O. O. F. buildings, which are being constructed on State street, will afford ample space and will give to our city the necessary buildings which will make such a store possible for the city of Alma.

No other city in Michigan has a more energetic and aggressive lot of merchants and business men who are really doing things in such a large way that people will sit up and take notice.

"God's Country and the Woman"—Idlehour Sunday.

START WORK

St. Louis-Alma Bottling Works Now Turning Out Products.

The St. Louis-Alma bottling works is now nicely located in St. Louis, the machinery installed and delicious soft drinks are now being made by the new company.

All of the machinery, bottles, cases, etc., used by the company are new and have only recently arrived from the factories and been put in place in the bottling works. All of the machinery of the new concern is run by individual motors of the latest type. An automatic carbonating machine is one of the features of the new plant. This machine automatically fills itself when empty and is the means of saving a great amount of labor. The filling and bottle capping machinery is also one of the interesting features of the business.

Thousands of cases, and many more thousands of bottles, are on hand at the bottling works, which is an indication that Messrs. Robinson and Shook are going out after all of the business in sight. Mr. Robinson, salesman, is now out after orders for the new product of the company, and says that the orders so far received are beyond the expectations of the concern, when it was first organized. Every business place in St. Louis and many in the city, that have handled soft drinks, are trying out the new product, he says.

DRY CLEANING SHOP

Dernier Brothers opened a dry cleaning and pressing establishment in the Bartley block the latter part of last week. Both ladies' and men's work will be handled by them. They will call for and deliver all work. They come to this city highly recommended as capable men in this line.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

I have engaged S. E. Gardner, M.D., of Mt. Pleasant, who for many years has been making a specialty of diseases of the eye and of refraction work, to spend the second and the fourth Mondays of each month in the hospital, where I shall be glad to have my friends see him when in need of his services. (73-13) I. N. BRAINERD, M. D.

DOUBLE CAPACITY OF LIBBY. PLANT

Three Large Structures To Be Erected at the Alma Branch of Company.

WILL DOUBLE WORKING FORCE

One Building Will Be of Brick and Two Will Be Frame Structures.

The capacity of the Libby, McNeil & Libby plant in this city is to be practically doubled this summer, through the addition of three large buildings to the present plant of the Chicago Packing company.

One of the buildings will be a large brick structure and the other two will be frame structures; such as the company now has at its big plant out on Michigan avenue. The buildings will be along Bridge street, in just the same order as the buildings which compose the old plant of this company. The buildings will be slightly larger than those that the company now has. The present buildings of the company are 90 by 96 feet, while each of the new structures will be 96 by 96 feet.

The first building, which will face Michigan avenue, will have a basement and will be one story in height. This structure will be a frame affair.

The second structure will be very similar to the brick structure now at the plant, except that it will be only one story in height, besides the basement. The third building will be constructed just like the third of the present plant, except for the slightly larger size.

The contract for the three buildings has been let and it is expected that work will be started on the new buildings within the space of a couple of weeks, and they will be rushed to completion.

The council on Tuesday night gave Libby, McNeil & Libby permission to construct another side track across East Superior street, which will serve the new structures which are to be constructed.

Peter Rinck, the manager of the local plant informed the Record reporter that he expected the new buildings would practically double the capacity of the plant and also about double the number of employees of the local branch of this large packing house.

"Pearl of the Army"—Idlehour soon.

HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS

Annual Concert of Chorus Given Next Wednesday.

The Alma high school will give its annual concert in the auditorium at 8 o'clock, Wednesday evening, April 25th.

The concert will be given under the able direction of Miss Mae Jones, supervisor of music in our public schools, who has been conducting rehearsals for the past several weeks. At this time the chorus, consisting of 200 voices, assisted by soloists and orchestra, will sing the cantata, "Rose Maiden." The words of the cantata given in solos, duets, trios and chorus numbers, follow the story of the birth and death of Roseblossom.

"The Queen of Fairies weary of a life of calm, prays of Spring that he bestow upon her the gift of love bestowed upon man. He warns her of the risk, but yields to her entreaties and changes her while asleep into the form of a beautiful maiden. Under the name of Roseblossom, she wanders through the world seeking love, and meets the gardener's daughter, who, having been deserted by her lover, loses her senses and dies brokenhearted. But Roseblossom, undeterred from her search becomes the wife of a forester, with whom she lives in such perfect happiness that she cannot survive his death."

The soloists are James Hopkins as Forester, and Ruth Palmer as Roseblossom, Mildred Sweet, the gardener's daughter, Paul Austin, Spring, The latter are pupils of Reese Farrington Veach.

The annual concert has been the most prominent feature of the high school chorus' work and mark, in a way, the culmination of the efforts of the year.

An admission of 15 cents will be charged, the fund to be used for the purchase of Victrola records.

BIG REAL ESTATE DEAL

It is reported that a big real estate deal has just been closed, F. B. Bannister and associates of Pittsburgh, Pa., having just taken over the Holiday Park addition of this city.

The Bannister company is a very large real estate firm and has sold lots in every state in the country. J. A. Wilkinson, who is now in the city has full charge of the addition and everything will need his O. K. This company is going to sell the Holiday Park addition at auction May 4th, 5th and 6th.

"Pearl of the Army"—Idlehour soon.

CONTRACT COMPANY

Local Men Form Alma Land Contract Company.

The Alma Land Contract company was incorporated under the laws of Michigan on April 13th, and at the meeting of the company held in the office of D. L. Johnson on Wednesday of this week the following officers were elected: President, Otto Sandenbott; Vice-president, William Klett; secretary and treasurer, D. L. Johnson.

This company was organized for the purpose of buying contracts from builders, thus releasing them, and giving them funds with which to do more building. Many in the past have sought for opportunities to dispose of contracts, and this opens up a way for them and fills a long felt want.

The officers of the company will hold a meeting Saturday evening at 7:30 p. m. in D. L. Johnson's office and all interested in selling contracts should attend.

POSTOFFICE WANTS

ADDITIONAL HELP

Work Has Been Doubled With No Extra Help—Clerk and Carrier Wanted.

The local post office has made application to the postal department for a new clerk and a new carrier to aid in relieving the office of the great amount of work, which has been forced upon the clerks and carriers.

During the past two years the business of the local post office has increased fifty per cent and during this time no new carriers or clerks have been secured, the same old number of carriers and clerks having the extra amount of work to do, or else it goes undone, as it sometimes is, simply because the men cannot get to all of it.

To show the increase that is being experienced, route three furnishes a glittering example, and also gives a fine indication of the growth of the city. The number of residences served July 1, 1915, was 295 on this route. The number has now grown to 568 and by May first the post office claims that it will grow to 152 more, through new houses that will be ready at that time on this one route. This shows an increase of 225 houses on this one route in just ten months.

The receipts of the post office for the first quarter this year, ending March 31st, were \$8540.01 and the expenses were only \$3,585.56, showing that the office pays into the department about sixty-five per cent of all money taken in.

If the receipts of the post office for the balance of this year are as large as during the first quarter, the salary of the postmaster, which is now \$2,600, will jump to \$2,800 and the assistant postmaster will also get a raise to \$1,400. In this case the post office here will do more business than the post offices at Mt. Pleasant, Greenville, Niles, Manistee, Ludington, Hillsdale, Coldwater or Charlotte, and will make the political plum—the postmastership—something still more worth striving for.

Complete reports sent to the postal department in the request for additional help, show that Arthur Lippert, carrier No. 1, has a route that is eighteen and a half miles in length, and that he averages 1,628 pieces of mail a day which have a total weight of 130 pounds.

Fred Delevan, carrier No. 2, has a route eighteen miles long, averages 1,424 pieces of mail each day which have a total weight of 120 pounds.

Frank Kindig, carrier No. 3, has a route that is twenty-two miles long, and averages 1,254 pieces of mail a day which have an average weight of ninety-seven and a half pounds.

Reports on carrier No. 4 and the substitute show that they are as busy as the other carriers, but the reports on them do not cover the above fully.

The reports certainly indicate that the post office is badly in need of another clerk and another carrier and Postmaster Cash and Assistant Lake are using every endeavor to get the department to add the two new men here.

TAKES FEED BARN

H. A. MacLaren has taken over the West Superior street cement feed and livery barn, which has been operated of late by Roy Burrell, and will operate the barn as a first class livery and feed stable in the future. He will also combine a draying business with the livery and feed stable. The change is being well greeted as the west end barn under Burrell was at times a sight, with old rumsnake buggies and wagons stuck around the barn and outside, making the place an eyesore. Mr. MacLaren has the reputation of a good liveryman, which means that such things will not be stuck around that way under his charge.

BISHOP HENDERSON HERE

Bishop Theodore S. Henderson of the Detroit Area, will speak at the M. E. church on Sunday morning. Bishop Henderson is a gifted speaker, and will have a message that is well worth the hearing.

THREE BUILDINGS FOR REPUBLIC

New Structures Will Be Added to Factories Within Short Time.

TWO OF THEM TO BE BRICK

One at Plant One, Another at Plant Two and Third at Plant Three.

Workmen will start on the construction of three new buildings for the various plants of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., within a few weeks, which will aid materially in the output of the great truck factory.

Two of the new structures which are to be built will be brick, and the third will be a frame structure. Three of the four Republic plants are to each of them receive one of the new buildings which is to be constructed at the present time.

There is every indication that a great amount of building will be done at the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., this summer, but plans for the other buildings are not yet ready to be made public, and it may be a couple of months yet before the further plans are announced by the officials of the company.

The contracts for the new buildings have been let to Henry Soule who will start working on the buildings at once, and put them up as rapidly as possible.

One of the buildings which will be of brick, will be 350 feet in length and 60 feet in width. This building will be an addition to plant one of the Republic. The building will lie along Bridge street on the north side of Michigan avenue.

Plant three of the Republic, where the Republic Dispatch is made, as the Republic Dispatch is made, known as the light delivery truck, is built, will have the addition of brick building, 250 by 60 feet.

A frame structure, 250 by 100 feet, will be constructed at plant two. This building will be used by this plant to a great extent as a storehouse for the motor division.

It is said that these new buildings are only a small portion of what the Republic Motor Truck company will build this summer if the city of Alma goes ahead with the improvements that are needed in the eastern end of the city, such as paving on East Superior and Bridge streets, etc.

"Pearl of the Army"—Idlehour soon.

FORMER RESIDENT DEAD

Mrs. Mary E. Wall Died in St. Louis Sunday.

On Sunday, at her home in St. Louis, Mary E. Wall, aged 69 years and 4 days, passed away. Mrs. Wall had been ill for nearly a year, but owing to her indomitable will she did not go to bed, or let her children know of her condition until ten weeks ago.

Mrs. Bina Wilcox of Aberdeen, South Dakota, her oldest daughter, came to St. Louis and spent five weeks at her mother's bedside. There it was arranged for Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hunt, the latter a niece of Mrs. Wall, to move to St. Louis and take care of Mrs. Wall until the end. A few days before her death, her second daughter, Mrs. Ella Kneading, of Minneapolis arrived and was with her mother at the end. Her son, Hon. Thos. D. Schall, accompanied by his little son, Thomas D. Schall, Jr., came from Washington to the funeral, which was held at the M. E. church at St. Louis. Rev. Mr. Ford, assisted by Rev. Mr. Brownlow, her old pastor of Alma, officiated at the beautiful burial service. The ladies of the Relief corps attended in a body. A large party of relatives from near Mt. Pleasant and Mr. and Mrs. Ward Foglesong, Mrs. Young and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Foglesong came down to the funeral. The casket was literally covered with beautiful flowers. One of the hymns and the scripture reading from Phillipian IV was chosen by Mrs. Wall herself. She died happy in the belief that she was going home to His home in Glory.

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

It is not necessary to be in the large cities in the big opera house or chautauqua centers to hear a first class program of music and reading; by talented young people. You certainly missed it if you did not attend the entertainment given by the Epworth league at the M. E. church Wednesday evening, April 11th.

The program consisted of solos by the Misses Palmer, Stone and Bradner and Mr. Smith, also readings by Mrs. Calkins and Mr. Grimes. They were ably assisted by the Alma college quartette and the Smith orchestra. The Epworth league wishes to thank the people who so kindly assisted them in giving the citizens of Alma such a splendid program of music and readings.

"God's Country and the Woman"—Idlehour Sunday.